

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for clearing a plural number of connections from each of two connected nodes by clearing the first connection from the first node, generating a single first
5 message from the first node to the second node identifying the connections, clearing the connections from the second node in response to the receipt of the first message, and generating a second message from the second node to the first node identifying the connections cleared by the second node in response to the second node receiving the first message. Furthermore, a node having circuits for generating and interpreting each of the
10 two messages, and maintaining a database of connection status. Further, each of the two message types that signal a clearing of a plurality of inter-nodal connections.

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